

## Message Text

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64

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SSM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-07 AID-05 SAM-01 /086 W

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R 220557Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9115

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, JO, IS

SUBJECT: JORDANIAN REACTION TO ALLON ARTICLE IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS

1. SUBJECT OF ALLON'S ARTICLE HAS RECEIVED FRONT PAGE AND SOME EDITORIAL ATTENTION IN JORDANIAN MEDIA, BUT IT HAS NOT BEEN TREATED AS A MAJOR STORY, NOR HAS IT BEEN TOPIC THAT JORDANIANS HAVE RAISED IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS. GENERAL REACTION IS HO-HUM ATTITUDE OF DEJA VU. JORDANIANS SEE NOTHING IN ALLON'S PROPOSALS BEYOND WHAT HE PUT FORWARD IN "ALLON PLAN" NEARLY DECADE AGO, AND THEY ARE EVEN LESS PREPARED IN CURRENT POST-RABAT ERA THAN THEY WERE THEN TO PERFORM ROLE OF POLICEMAN IN ISRAELI OCCUPIED TERRITORY -THE ROLE THEY SAY ALLON PLAN GIVES JORDAN.

2. JORDANIANS SEE IN ALLON'S PROPOSALS NO SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE FOR MOVING PEACE PROCESS FORWARD. RATHER, AS LEADING NEWSPAPERS HAVE EDITORIALIZED, APPEARANCE OF ALLON'S ARTICLE AT THIS TIME REPRESENTS ATTEMPT TO DEFLATE ON EVE OF UNGA SESSION WORLD OPPOSITION TO  
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CONTINUED ISRAELI OCCUPATIONS, AND TO GIVE ISRAEL'S

AMERICAN FRIENDS A PEG ON WHICH TO CONTINUE  
DEFENDING ISRAELI INFLEXIBILITY ON BASIC MIDDLE EAST  
SETTLEMENT TERMS--I.E., ON RESOLUTION OF PALESTINIAN  
ISSUE. SOME JORDANIANS THINK ALLON ARTICLE WILL PRODUCE  
DIVIDENDS FOR ARABS BECAUSE IT WILL REVIVE DIVISIVE  
TERRITORY ISSUE IN ISREALI DOMESTIC DEBATE AND THUS  
WEAKEN NATIONALSOLIDARITY THAT WAS STRENGTHENED BY  
ENTEBBE RAID. MOST OF OUR CONTACTS, HOWEVER--INCLUDING  
MINISTER OF INFORMATION ADNAN ODEH WHO HAS MAJOR ROLE  
IH GOJ WEST BANK POLICY--BELIEVE THERE IS BROAD ISRAELI  
CONSENSUS ON IMPORTANCE OF HOLDING ON TO CAPTURED  
TERRITORY FOR STRATEGIC REASONS -- A CONSENSUS THAT ONLY  
AMERICAN PRESSURE, NOT MILDLY DISSENTING ARTICLES LIKE  
ALLON'S, CAN OVERCOME.

3.COMMENT: ASIDE FROM OLD WINE IN NOT-SO-NEW BOTTLES  
ASPECT OF ALLON ARTICLE, JORDANIANS' RELATIVE DISINTEREST  
IN SUBJECT IS ALSO RESULT OF GREATER CURRENT  
PREOCCUPATION WITH DOMESTIC PROBLEMS (AMMAN 4475).  
MOREOVER, JORDAN'S PRIME FOREIGN POLICY CONCERN NOW  
IS WITH EVENTS IN LEBANON THAT COULD AFFECT JORDAN'S  
POSTURE TOWARD WEST BANK QUESTIONS MUCH MORE THAN  
DOES ALLON'S ARTICLE. ALL THE SAME, DURINGCURRENT  
PERIOD OF FLUX IN ARAB WORLD WHEN GOJ ALL BUT EXCLUDED  
FROM PARTICIPATION IN KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN LEBANON  
AFFECTING MIDDLE EAST, WE SUSPECT GOJ PRIVATELY WELCOMES  
ALLON'S REMINDER THAT JORDAN HAS ROLE TO PLAY IN  
ARRANGEMENTS FOR REGION'S FUTURE.  
SUDDARTH

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